

There are two different versions of the death of John Owens II. I tend to think the version in the Tenmile Creek history is wrong. The versions related in the Marion and Harrison West Virginia histories seem to be closer to the truth. A first hand account is related in Power's Revolutionary War Pension document which refers to John Owens and John Juggins being killed. This is in agreement with the Marion and Harrison Histories. The Tenmile Creek history has the other man as unknown. The Marion and Harrison accounts would also be in agreement with the fact John Owens was staking a claim to land in the Monongahela area of Virginia. According to John Owen's Will he left his land on Tenmile Creek to his son David and the land he was then laboring on to his son John Jr. I assume the land he was laboring on was where he was killed on Booth's Creek in Virginia.

at the age of 21 to him heirs & assigns forever. I give unto my son John when come to of proper age the plantation & new labour which his heirs and assigns forever

We the Commissioners for adjusting Claims to unpatented lands  
the Counties of Monongalia & Johogania do hereby certify that  
John Owens Junr. Heir at law to John Owens Decd. is intitled to one thousand  
and nine hundred acres of land in Monongalia County in the right of Preemption  
adjoining lands granted to John Owens Decd. by the former Commrs  
in right of settlement, given our hands at John Fairpoints this 18th  
Day of February 1882 in the sixth year of the Common Wealth  
  
John P. Duval  
J. W. H. H.  
Will Haymore  
  
John Owens Clerk

killed John Owens and John Juggins

Illustration 1: Power's Revolutionary War file

niece taken prisoner.

In June 1780 John Owens, John Juggins and Owen Owens were attacked by some Indians as they were going to their cornfields on Booth's Creek and the two former were killed and scalped. Owen Owens being some distance behind them made his escape to the fort. John Owens, the younger, who had been to the pasture field for the plough horses, heard the guns, but not suspecting any danger to be near, rode forward towards the corn field. As he was proceeding along the path by a fence side riding one and leading another horse he was fired at by several Indians, some of whom afterwards rushed forward and caught at the bridle reins, yet he escaped unhurt from them all.

*Illustration 2: It was actually 1781*

by the Indians in the Spring of 1781.

In the Spring of 1781, John Owens, Jr., son of the Indian Trader, was living on his tract of land, about a mile West of the present Court House at Waynesburg. With his neighbors, William Brown, William English, another man not named, and some of their sons, John Owens, Jr., was out making maple sugar, as was the custom in those days, it being the only sweetening available to the pioneers. Having finished their work, they were on their way home when they were fired upon by some Indians. English, Brown, the unidentified man, and John Owens were killed in the first volley, but Vincent Brown and Mathew Brown escaped to reach home and spread the alarm.

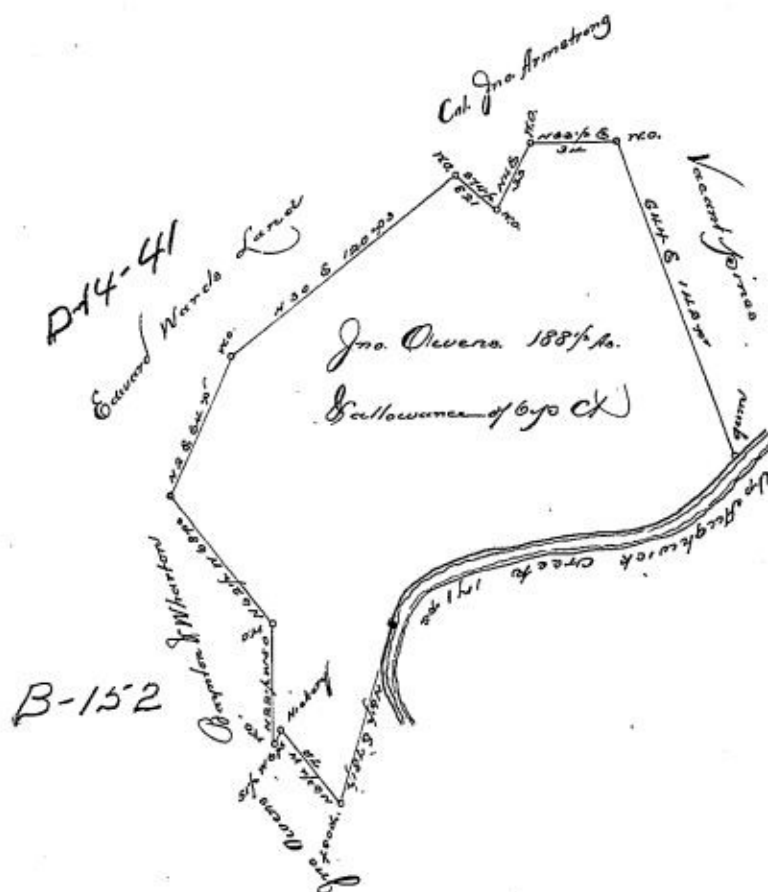
John Owens was possessed of several pieces of land when he was killed, and one of these pieces must have been in Kentucky, where his will was filed (in Bracken County), and to which place some of his children soon after removed. His will, which was administered by his wife and a neighbor, Sebastian Shroffe, is on file in Washington, County, Pennsylvania, Will Book No. 1, pp. 51, and was probated April 6, 1781. In it he names his sons, David and John, but Orphans' Court records reveal that guardians were appointed for minor children whose names are listed as: David Owens, John Owens, Jr., Vincent Owens, George Owens, Mary Owens and James Owens. A daughter, Sarah, had married Richard Gragston, and shared in the estate. It was John Owens' son, David Owens, who served in James Archer's Company of Washington County Militia. Shortly after 1785, the family went to Kentucky and settled in Bracken County.

John Owens II escaped being killed once before.

After the murder of John Thomas and his family in 1781, the settlement on Booth's creek was forsaken, and its inhabitants went to Simpson's creek, for greater security. In the Spring John Owens procured the assistance of some young men about Simpson's creek, and proceeded to Booth's creek for the purpose of threshing some wheat at his farm there.—While on a stack throwing down sheaves, several guns were fired at him by a party of twelve Indians, concealed not far off. Owens leapt from the stack, and the men caught up their guns. They could not, however, discover any one of the savages in their covert and thought it best to retreat to Simpson's creek and strengthen their force before they ventured in pursuit of their enemy. They accordingly did so, and when they came again to Booth's creek, the Indians had decamped, taking with them the horses left at Owens'. The men however found their trail and followed it until night.—Early next morning, crossing the West Fork at Shinns-ton, they went on in pursuit and came within sight of the Indian camp, and seeing some of the savages lying near their fires, fired at them, but, as was believed without

Like his father John Owens II owned land in Augwick (a path along Augwick Creek was used by traders and Indians for many years).

15	Orbison, Thomas	Receipt	51.0	Peters. Imp.	31	"	"	31 May 1763	91	5	Thomas Orbison	RA	10	155	C48	297
16	Owens, John Jr.	Survey	150	On N. S. Augwick Cr.	7	June	"	11 Feb. 1788	188	80	Peter Wikoff	P	13	10	A 7	209
17	Oswald, Jacob	"	100	Antrim Twp.	2	April 1765	of	Said man	180	20	"	"	"	"	"	"



A Draught of a tract of land situate on Aughwick Creek in the County of Cumberland  
 Containing one hundred and eighty eight acres and a half and the usual allowance of six  
 acres p. Ct. for Roads &c. Surveyed the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1767 for John Owens in purs.

O'FARLAN Patrick - Nottingham; w 92

O'NEILL Barnett; a 90

OWENS (OWINGS) John Sr - Ten Mile; w 85; a 87 (Susannah); minor  
 ch 90 (John, David, Vincent, George, Mary, James)

Account Document 1787?



John Owens } In the name of God Amen. I John Owens, being of the fourth fork of Ten  
several } Mile creek in the County of Monongehela and State of Virginia & being through  
the abundant Mercy and goodness of Almighty God the great in body yet a ~~small~~  
and perfect Under standing and memory do constitute this my last will and  
Testament and desires it may be received by all as such, First I most humbly bequeath  
to my soul to god my maker who give it me bestowing his most <sup>gracious</sup> acceptance of it. I  
give my body to the earth from whence it ~~came~~ it was taken to be buried in a  
decent and Christian like Manner at the direction of my dear wife and Executor  
hereafter named who I doubt not will manage it with all requisite prudence as  
for my worldly Estate that it has pleased God to bless me with shall be ordred in the  
manner following: First I give unto my son David the possession of my lower  
plantation which lies in the forks of the afore mentioned creek when he arrives  
at the age of 21 to him heirs & assigns forever. I give unto my son John when come  
to proper age the plantation Snow ~~labour~~ <sup>labour</sup> to him his heirs and assigns forever  
and these my two sons David & John is to possess these two places Landed to pay to the  
rest of their Brothers and Sisters such a compensation as shall make them all  
equal sharers in these Estates moveables and as for my loving and affectionate  
wife she shall have the prerogative of all while she remains a widow and if she  
marries the third of all and as for my dearest mother she shall have her maintain-  
ance off the Estate during her life if it can be made and my estate which lies in  
Pennsylvania Aithick Creek in Bedford County I give unto my Executors to be  
disposed of by them for to assist in my journey up these my children and lastly I

M. Mullen as declared by her in her life time (to wit) on the twenty sixth day of January A.D. seventeen hundred and ninety, as appears within and the said will was by her the said decedent desired to be committed to writing by James Seal and the said seal wrote the same in the presence of us the 2<sup>d</sup> deponents and in the presence of the Testator before her death and at her special Instance and request, and the said Nancy Brown and Sarah Owens do further affirm declare and say that the said Susannah M. Mullen at the time of the doing thereof was of a sound and perfect mind, memory and understanding

Illustration 3: Susannah McMullen Will

July-1775—John Owens Dir. of  
to Thomas Kent— L. S. S.  
to one pattern Deer Skins— 0 = 10 = 0—

January the 26<sup>th</sup> 1789 This day Came Thomas Kent  
before me the Subscriber a Justice of Peace for the  
County of Washington and made oath the above  
Account is just and true as it stands stated and that  
he hath never received no part nor parcel thereof  
Sworn to and Subscribed before me  
Levi Harwood  
Thomas Kent  
mark



Remains Due to John Anthony  
One Pound 3<sup>d</sup> 6<sup>th</sup>  
Oct-28. 1777 - John Anthony

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0360

Widow Owens Charge for Rearing her Children —  
to Rearing one Child from Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> <sup>the then being 5 months old</sup> ~~1781~~ 1781 until Apr 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1785 — £ 12 .. ..

Rearing two Other Child<sup>n</sup> from Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1781 they  
being <sup>4 M</sup> 2..5. Old until Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1785 — 24 .. ..

Rearing one Other Child from Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1781  
he being <sup>4 M</sup> 4..6 Old until Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1785 — 12 .. ..

£ 48 .. ..

her  
Susanah Owens  
mar 6

He being Chosen by Henry Vanmeter Justice  
of Washington County Pa and Widow Owens and  
Substain Droffe and Sworn well and truly to appraise  
in Current Money Such of the Estate of John  
Owens Late of tenmile Deceased as shall be brought  
before us which is as follows viz

Sworn before <sup>me</sup> this 29 Day of October 1785

the upper Plantation  
Prised to \_\_\_\_\_

Henry Vanmeters

	L	S	d
the Lower Plantation to			
or Both Plantations to	375	00	0
one Sorrel Horse priced to	10	00	0
one Blased face Horse to	9	0	0
one Bay Mare	9	0	0
one Brindle Cow	3	10	
one Black Cow with white Rump	4		
one Yellow Heifer	2	10	0
one Black Steer two years old	2	0	0
one yellow Cow with White Back	3	10	0
one Bull calf	0	12	6
one Sow and Nine Pigs	1	10	0
Two young hogs	0	17	6
one old Saddle	0	10	0
one Rifle Gun	4	7	6
one Bed	2	0	0
one Do	1	0	0
three Pots one pan & oldettle	1	2	6
Old Putter to	1	15	0
one Mattock & Two old hoes	0	10	0
one Churn and small peal	0	4	0
one old ewe & Lamb and small Weather	1	5	0
one Peachel pot	0	1	0
one small pot	0	1	0

David Gray

John H. Pley  
James Meranda

~~60 16 6~~

£ 60 16 6

To 1 pair of Mittell Buckells . . . . .	0 2 6
To 2 yd and 2 half of Cheek. 10 . . . . .	0 12 6
To 2 yd of Staff. . . . .	0 7 6
To 2 patting of 2 Silk Bonnet . . . . .	1 0 0
To 3 half pints of Rum . . . . .	0 3 0

1777 Dr By an <sup>gr</sup> of m<sup>rs</sup> en Bartley County — 0  
in Virginia





0366

*Wm. P.*  
 Executors of the Last will & Testament of John Owens Deceased as well & such  
 as & Credits which were of the said Deceased as have come to the Hands or Possessions of  
 their Payments & Disbursements out of the same &c

with the Goods Chattels  
 as have come to the  
 Accomplishment According  
 to Office for the County

The said Accomplishment brings an Allowance of their  
 Payments For said Estate out of the same as Followeth  
*T. Hall*

*S. J. D.*

*Oct 24 1783*  
*Nov 24 1783*

6.-  
 0..0  
 16..6  
 16..6  
 0..3  
 8..3

Paid Register for Letters Testamentary - - - - -	1	5	-
Paid At Return of Inventory - - - - -	-	2	9
1 Paid George Church as for account - - - - -	-	-	-
2 Paid Thomas Rount P. prov. Aut. - - - - -	-	10	-
3 John Amerson P. Note - - - - -	1	2	6
John Wiley for bond to prove the will two days - - - - -	-	-	-
- D. for Appraising the Estate - - - - -	2	6	-
4 Keeping four Children 4 years Each <i>3 L</i> - - - - -	40	0	0
P. Year P. Voucher 4 - - - - -	-	-	-
Other fees - - - - -	-	12	-
Register fees for testamentary - - - - -	1	5	-
	55	8	-

Had 9  
 in Au-  
 Right  
 for

